

HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA NOW!

For Immediate Release

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New TV Ad: Health Care Reform Deserves Debate *HCAN Urges Senators Nelson and Johanns to Allow Process to Move Forward*

See the Ad: HealthCareforAmericaNow.org/AllowDebate

Lincoln, NE – Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest, as part of [Health Care for America Now](http://HealthCareforAmericaNow.org) (HCAN) – the nation’s largest health care campaign – announced the release of a new television ad in Nebraska today asking Senators Ben Nelson and Mike Johanns to vote in favor of allowing health care reform to reach the Senate floor and then allowing a vote on the bill.

The ad titled “Debate” will run for one week starting today on broadcast and cable in Omaha and Lincoln.

The spot explains that while the nation has been discussing health care reform for months, it’s now time for the full Senate to begin its official debate. And because the health insurance industry and other special interest groups intent on blocking meaningful reform are spending millions to try and derail the process, Nebraskans need their Senators to stand strong and vote in favor of the motion to proceed.

“Clearly, we want Senators Nelson and Johanns to vote for a bill that guarantees good, affordable health care for our families and businesses, but before we can even get to that step, we need at least 60 Senators to vote to start debate,” said Rebecca Gould, Executive Director of Nebraska Appleseed. “Regardless of where our Senators stand on various aspects of the legislation, it is vital that what has been called the ‘world’s greatest deliberative body’ actually be allowed to deliberate.”

Nebraskans can no longer wait for health care reform. Health insurance premiums for working families skyrocketed 69 percent from 2000 to 2007 while median earnings only increased 21%. Left unchecked, premiums will be \$22,976 in 2016—a full 58 percent of project family income in the state. One in eight Nebraskans was uninsured in 2008, and without reform, the number of uninsured in Nebraska in 2019 will reach 293,000. Read the full report: http://neappleseed.org/docs/nebraska_110209k.pdf .

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